

high-quality health care services. In large part because of his work and leadership, California experienced the slowest rate of health expenditure growth relative to the entire nation.

He took the lead to develop the Modern Pricing approach, a voluntary effort where hospitals can adjust their charges to develop a more user-friendly billing process. He improved the transparency of hospital data, helping to develop the California Hospital Assessment Reporting Taskforce (CHART), which adopted 50 hospital performance measures and still publicly reports hospital quality today. Under his leadership, the California Hospital Association established the 501(c)3 Hospital Quality Institute to prioritize initiatives that improve patient safety and quality.

His public recognition acknowledges his accomplishments. He has earned the American College of Health Care Executives highest honor, the Gold Medal Award, a Lifetime Achievement Award from the Healthcare Executive of Southern California, and the Ludlam-Gamble Award from the National Health Foundation, among many others.

I, along with House Minority Leader NANCY PELOSI, have both appreciated Duane's counsel and advice over the years, leaning upon him to inform our own health care policy decisions. The fact that we come from different sides of the aisle reflects not only the excellence of Duane's advice, but also the quality of his character.

Friends and colleagues have called him an "elder statesmen," a "careful listener," a "decisive leader," and a man of "resolute character" with "a work ethic that never wavers." Duane is a person who has always done more than his job required and did it well. While the people of California and the nation will miss his leadership, we are all the better that he spent so much of his life serving our state and country.

HONORING MACEDONIA
MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

HON. WALTER B. JONES

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 11, 2017

Mr. JONES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Macedonia Missionary Baptist Church in my hometown of Farmville, North Carolina. This congregation recently celebrated 126 years of serving our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. The passion and commitment from this church has helped to spread the Word and Humility of Christ throughout the town of Farmville and surrounding communities for many, many years.

The ministry and community outreach performed by the people of Macedonia M.B. have helped meet the needs of so many. I am proud and honored to call these people my neighbors.

I want to thank the church family of Macedonia Missionary Baptist and Pastor Dr. Jerry W. Spruell as they continue to improve the quality of life for so many people and commend them on this milestone in their ministry. I pray that they will be blessed with many more years of service to our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

As it is written in the book of Hebrews 6:10, "God is not unjust, He will not forget your work and the love you have shown Him as you helped His people and continue to help them."

Congratulations on your 126 years of service.

HONORING THE MADISON COUNTY
LOCAL HARVEST BANQUET

HON. DOUG COLLINS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 11, 2017

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize my Madison County neighbors for their recent success in raising money for the local foodbank at the Madison County Local Harvest Banquet.

Last year, the Madison County Extension Office launched this banquet to raise money for the local food bank, which assists families and friends in the area.

What began as a simple idea eventually grew into a community-wide effort. At the banquet, local farmers donated food, students from the local culinary school prepared meals, and community leaders volunteered to serve food.

In its inaugural year, participants raised over \$3,000, and this year, their efforts increased by nearly half, putting the grand total at \$4,375 raised for Madison County residents in need.

As the holiday season approaches, let us all follow the example that my Madison County neighbors have put forth. Let us look to one another with compassion, opening our hearts in order to help meet the needs of our communities.

I thank my friends in Madison County for their generosity, and I look forward to seeing the continued success of their charitable efforts.

RECOGNIZING LIEUTENANT
COMMANDER JAKE FERRARI

HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 11, 2017

Mr. WITTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize those men and women who continue to serve this great Nation with honor—men such as Lieutenant Commander (LCDR) Jake Ferrari, United States Navy.

For the past year, LCDR Ferrari, affectionately known in my office as "Snake," served on my staff as a Congressional Defense Fellow. A 2004 graduate of the United States Naval Academy, LCDR Ferrari is a proud Surface Warfare Officer who served onboard USS *Lake Champlain* (CG 57), USS *Tarawa* (LHA-1), USS *Milius* (DDG 69), and USS *Cape St. George* (CG 71). During his assignment in my office, LCDR Ferrari provided senior-level input for defense, veterans, foreign affairs and intelligence matters. Additionally, he executed his work as a liaison to the constituents of Vir-

ginia's First Congressional District with distinction.

Furthermore, LCDR Ferrari provided exceptional support to me as a staff liaison to the House Armed Services Committee in my role as the Seapower and Projection Forces Subcommittee Chairman. The year 2017 proved to be a pivotal time for the Navy's surface community, highlighted by the tragic collisions of the USS *Fitzgerald* and USS *McCain*. In response, LCDR Ferrari dutifully provided me with guidance on what the Navy's path forward should be in critical areas such as training, readiness, and manning. His recent experience in the surface community was invaluable to my work in Congress.

As the Co-Chair of the Congressional Shipbuilding Caucus, the Co-Chair of the Navy-Marine Corps Caucus, and the Chairman of the United States Naval Academy's Board of Visitors, I relied on LCDR Ferrari to organize quarterly events with government, military, and private sector leaders. These events allowed key decisionmakers to work together for the advancement of our future Naval Officers as well as the construction and repair of the ships on which they will serve.

LCDR Ferrari also directly contributed to my goal of providing excellent constituent service to the people of the First District. He was responsible for bringing numerous constituent inquiries to a successful conclusion, and he leveraged his personal and operational experience in the Navy to respond to the most challenging inquiries. In addition to his efforts locally, LCDR Ferrari took on projects with regional, state, and national implications, demonstrating his ability to view a challenge from many angles and develop innovative solutions. Specifically, LCDR Ferrari served as my direct liaison to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) in the aftermath of the damage caused by Hurricane Maria in Puerto Rico. His diligent communication and coordination with FEMA benefitted many of my constituents with family residing in Puerto Rico.

LCDR Ferrari's work ethic, duty to mission, and commitment to servant leadership is without equal. I believe that his personal drive to achieve excellence in his work has and will set a very high standard for his peers. I would also like to thank LCDR Ferrari for the service and sacrifice he has made, and continues to make, both for our Nation and our great Navy. His keen sense of honor, impeccable integrity, boundless work ethic, and loyal devotion to duty earned him the respect and admiration of my staff and the First District of Virginia. I have no doubt that LCDR Ferrari will continue to serve the Navy honorably and with distinction.

I wish Jake, his wife Laura, and their children Lilly, Jack, Lucy, and Eleanor the best of luck as they continue their journey together as a Navy family. It was an honor and a pleasure having him serve on my staff. We all can sleep soundly at night knowing that members of our all-volunteer force like Jake stand ready to defend our country and take the fight to our enemies; far away from their families and the comforts of the United States of America.

I thank LCDR Jake Ferrari for doing a fantastic job. Best of luck to him and may God bless him, his family, and all the Sailors he is connected with leading.

IN RECOGNITION OF MAYOR J. SCOTT PADGETT AND HIS SERVICE TO THE CITY OF CONCORD

HON. RICHARD HUDSON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 11, 2017

Mr. HUDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mayor J. Scott Padgett for his more than two decades of service to the City of Concord, North Carolina.

I've known and worked with Mayor Padgett more than 20 years, and he's someone I've always considered a friend and partner when it came to helping the citizens of Concord. A longtime resident of Concord, Mayor Padgett received his undergraduate degree from Appalachian State University, a Master of Education Degree from the University of North Carolina at Charlotte, and an Advanced Degree from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Mayor Padgett has spent most of his life as a public servant. Before he was elected to public office he served as the principal at Beverly Hills Elementary School in Concord and as a member of the Concord Planning and Zoning Commission. As part of the Planning and Zoning Commission, he gained valuable experience that helped him shape the City of Concord into the wonderful place it is today when he was elected to the Concord City Council and eventually elected as Mayor.

Over the years, Mayor Padgett has been very active in our community, receiving multiple awards for his service. He has served on the boards of North Carolina League of Municipalities, N.C. Metropolitan Mayors Coalition, Cabarrus Boys & Girls Club, Cabarrus Bank & Trust, and the Rowan-Cabarrus Community College, while also being an active member of the Concord Rotary Club, and participant in the U.S. Conference of Mayors. Mayor Padgett received a Lifetime Achievement Award from the Cabarrus Regional Chamber of Commerce, and has been honored with the Order of The Long Leaf Pine, the highest honor that can be bestowed upon a North Carolinian. As you can tell, Mayor Padgett's servant heart never stops, no matter the day or time.

Residing in Concord with his wife, Teresa, he has one son and three grandchildren. Mayor Padgett has shown immense dedication to his career and his family over the years. I am extremely grateful for Mayor Padgett's service to our community and I wish him continued success in his well-deserved retirement.

Mr. Speaker, please join me today in honoring Mayor J. Scott Padgett for his service to the City of Concord.

HONORING JACQUELINE S. GILLAN

HON. JAMES P. McGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 11, 2017

Mr. McGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor my good friend and tireless auto safety advocate, Jacqueline S. Gillan, on her retirement from her day-to-day leadership role at Advocates for Highway and Auto Safety, a group she helped found nearly three decades

ago. Beginning in January 2018, Jackie will transition to President Emeritus at Advocates.

Jackie has dedicated her professional career to making our roads safer for all American families. She co-lead Advocates starting in 1990 and has served as President since 2011. Prior to joining Advocates, she worked in senior policy positions in the Office of the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Transportation, the United States Senate, the Washington, D.C. office of the Governor of Ohio, and the California and New Jersey state transportation agencies.

Her extensive accomplishments include the successful enactment of numerous federal and state laws advancing motor vehicle and motor carrier safety standards; improving child safety; strengthening impaired driving laws; requiring safety belts, child restraints, and motorcycle helmet use; establishing teen driver programs; and providing adequate funding for highway and auto safety programs.

Mr. Speaker, I have had the distinct pleasure of working with Jackie for several years on transportation safety issues. I am always impressed with her skillful knack to bring together a diverse group of transportation stakeholders to work to make our roads safer. But perhaps Jackie's greatest trait is her ability to tell the stories of truck crash victims with power and compassion. Her work with crash victims and their families—to make sure that every story is heard—is an incredible testament to her personal devotion to the issues she has worked on.

Jackie is truly one of the most effective advocates that I have had the privilege to work with during my congressional career. You will find no greater champion for road safety than Jackie Gillan. She exemplifies the best of public service and principled public policy. I have no doubt that our roads are safer because of her years of hard work. I wish Jackie and her family nothing but the best in her well-earned retirement.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate of February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Tuesday, December 12, 2017 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

DECEMBER 13

Time to be announced

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

Business meeting to consider the nominations of Kenneth L. Marcus, of Virginia, to be Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, and Johnny Collett, of Kentucky, to be Assistant Secretary for Special Education and Rehabilitative Services, both of the Department of Education, Scott A. Mugno, of Pennsylvania, to be an Assistant Secretary, and William Beach, of Kansas, to be Commissioner of Labor Statistics, both of the Department of Labor, and other pending nominations.

TBA

9:30 a.m.

Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry

To hold hearings to examine safeguarding American agriculture in a globalized world.

SR-328A

Committee on Foreign Relations

To hold hearings to examine using force, focusing on strategic, political, and legal considerations.

SD-419

9:50 a.m.

Committee on Environment and Public Works

Business meeting to consider the nomination of R. D. James, of Missouri, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Army, Department of Defense.

SD-406

10 a.m.

Committee on Armed Services

Subcommittee on Emerging Threats and Capabilities

To receive a closed briefing on Department of Defense global counterterrorism operations.

SVC-217

Committee on Armed Services

Subcommittee on Personnel

To hold hearings to examine an update on research, diagnosis, and treatment for traumatic brain injury/concussion in servicemembers.

SR-222

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

Business meeting to consider S. 2202, to amend title 49, United States Code, to authorize appropriations for the National Transportation Safety Board, S. 2200, to reauthorize the National Integrated Drought Information System, S. 1768, to reauthorize and amend the National Earthquake Hazards Reduction Program, the nomination of Barry Lee Myers, of Pennsylvania, to be Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere, and a routine list in the Coast Guard.

SH-216

Committee on Environment and Public Works

To hold an oversight hearing to examine the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

SD-406

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

To hold hearings to examine implementation of the 21st Century Cures Act, focusing on responding to mental health needs.

SD-430

Committee on the Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Elizabeth L. Branch, of Georgia, to be United States Circuit Judge